



MAPLE LEAFLET

Maple Leaf International School

A Canadian International Program



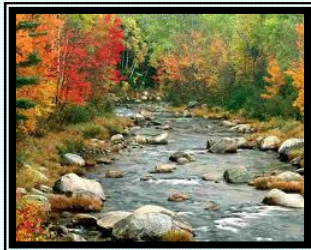
MAIN CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-9578/633-3173
Fax: (868) 633-3068

Alyce Heights Drive, Alyce Glen, Petit Valley,
Trinidad, W.I.
E-mail: mlis@tstt.net.tt Website: www.mapleleaf-school.com

PRIMARY CAMPUS
Tel: (868) 632-8339/9500
Fax: (868) 633-7330

SPECIAL POINTS

- ☺ Be considerate of our neighbours when it comes to parking or dropping off/picking up the children to/from school.
- ☺ We appreciate calls to let us know a child will be absent.
- ☺ Making an effort to wear our school uniform appropriately and adhering to the uniform rules.
- ☺ Please provide any new addresses or telephone numbers to the office for updating of our files.
- ☺ Turn off your engines....please. When you're waiting to collect your kids in the driveway of the main campus, your kids can be affected by the fumes.
- ☺ Label all clothes, school bags, laptops, lunch kits, books, binders, etc.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

October 11th	Canadian Thanksgiving
October 29th	JK/SK monthly reports go home
October 30th	Cook Off, Main Campus
November 4th	Elementary Progress Reports (Grs. 1—8) go home
November 5th	Divali
December 10th	Last day of school before Christmas holidays
January 3rd	First day back to school after Christmas holidays



WELCOME TO OUR NEW PRINCIPAL: **BILL HARGREAVES**

We welcome Mr. Hargreaves, our new Principal, and his wife to Trinidad and Maple Leaf International School. Mr. Hargreaves brings to our school a broad and diverse background in education. He has taught a number of subjects at both the Secondary and Elementary levels, while also enjoying extensive opportunities as an administrator in French/English Elementary Schools, and as a Principal on Special Assignment within Secondary School.

During the last few years, Mr. Hargreaves has been engaged in the Human Resources Department, and as an Administrative Mentor.

Mr. Hargreaves is looking forward to being a positive contributor to the life of Maple Leaf International School.

CANADIAN THANKSGIVING

Canada has a beauty of her own for each season, but is particularly breathtaking in the fall when the Thanksgiving celebration occurs. In autumn, leaves turn colours of red, orange, yellow and brown as trees prepare for the snow white tips of winter. Children love to play and stomp in piles of leaves, listening to the crunch beneath their shoes. The air is cooler and everything seems sharper and clearer.

The Canadian Thanksgiving is held the second Monday in October. Thanksgiving in Canada provides an opportunity for Canadians to give thanks for all that they have been given, for having the good fortune to live in a bountiful, free country, and to celebrate that day by feasting with family and friends. Proclamation and Observance of General Thanksgiving Days and reasons can be found at <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/ceem-cced/jfa-ha/graces-eng.cfm>

“Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation.”



News From The Office.....

Daily announcements are read each morning and placed on the Bulletin Board, outside Building B. They are also posted on the school website so that students, staff and parents can stay informed. If your son/daughter needs the URL to access the mapleleaf-school.com email access site you can always get it by visiting the school web site and click on News, You will also get the daily announcements that are given at school every day .

A number of clubs are up and running and looking for members such as:

The Dragon Boat Team is training on land and on water. Interested students can see Ms. Chuckaree.

The Charity Club is meeting on Wednesday 29th September, 2010 in Room 307.

Mr. Simpson has started an Architectural Club and the meeting will be on Tuesday 28th September, 2010 after school.

Congratulations to: Stephan Sharpe who won the Cross Harbour 5000m race yesterday at Maracas.

Jessica Stephenson will be representing Guyana at the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

BUILDING C

In June of 2010, at the Board of Directors meeting, there was a thorough discussion on the efficient use of the physical resources that were being employed at Maple Leaf International School.

After an observation period in which Building C was not timetable nor employed for instructional space, a further discussion on the matter of Building C was conducted.

In keeping with our desire to be informative, and following the recent Board Meeting, it has been decided that Maple Leaf can effectively and efficiently function without the use of Building C.

We appreciate your continued support of Maple Leaf International School, as we strive to provide a quality education experience for your child(ren).

CHANGE AT MAPLE LEAF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Mr. Ian De Souza, the recently elected Chairman of The Board at Maple Leaf International School, has reported that the school is undergoing a number of significant and positive changes. One of the most interesting is that the school has a new governance structure. With this development, it is believed that more control will be placed into the hands of the parents of the school. It is the parents who will now be the primary members of the Board of Directors, and these members are duly elected by the school's parent community. This is a significant change at Maple Leaf. It is anticipated that this development will result in a more responsive school, and as such, lead to an even higher quality of education that is provided at the school.

Mr. De Souza pointed out that the Board of Directors remains firmly behind the Canadian Educational System that is provided at Maple Leaf International School. It is noteworthy that in the August edition of **Newsweek Magazine**, it was reported that the Canadian system ranked as the third best educational system in the world. Canada was the highest English speaking country in the Education category. In this regard, Mr. De Souza further reported that the school has recently appointed Mr. W. Hargreaves from Holland Landing, Ontario, as its Principal. Mr. Hargreaves brings to Maple Leaf a broad and diverse background as an administrator in the Ontario Educational system. It is Mr. Hargreaves' intent to continue the positive learning that is in place at the school, and to further enhance the educational opportunities for all students, through a respectful relationship with all of the key partners in education. Maple Leaf International School has two foreign administrators who were both trained in Ontario, Canada. In addition, over 80% of the Secondary Teaching Staff are certified by the Ontario College of Teachers. Recently, Maple Leaf School was inspected by the Ontario Ministry of Education. The Board of Directors was pleased to hear a complimentary report from the Ontario Private School Inspector. Ms. P. Rose, who is the Inspector, spent over a week at the school visiting classrooms, talking to staff, checking curriculum documents, tests and student work. She was impressed with the quality of education that is provided at Maple Leaf. We are pleased with the report said Mr. De Souza.

TECHNOLOGY

The school has moved forward on its Technology initiative as well. Teachers have started creating web sites for their classes , and a new email system that includes students and staff has been implemented. In addition, new software that enhances literacy and numeracy skills for grades JK to Grade 12, has been obtained. This software, which was developed by Nectar Foundation of Ottawa, Canada, is valued at over \$60,00.00 TT and is licensed by the Ontario Ministry of Education for use in Ontario schools.

SCHOOL is ultimately about education. In this regard , we are pleased to report that all of Grade 12 students successfully completed their studies, with 50% of them receiving the prestigious Ontario Scholar Certificate. The award is granted to scholars who have at least an 80% average on their top six Grade 12 courses Our graduates have embarked on higher education throughout the world, and we collectively wish them well.

Finally, Mr. De Souza states that these successes and initiatives are reason to celebrate, and something for which the school at large can be duly proud. These factors reinforce our commitment in the belief that the best schools are those that have parent involvement. It speaks well for the future of the Maple Leaf International School.



Mary Rawlings

FAMILIES – CLASS OF 2011

All students who are eligible to graduate in June 2011 or January 2012, are part of the 'Class of 2011'. All of these students may – and we hope will – participate in the graduation ceremony the last week of June.

I have provided the Class of 2011, with a summary sheet which outlines the admission timelines. Please ask to see this. It is important that your son or daughter begin to finalize the list of Universities/Colleges, as well as the program of study to which they would like to apply. I have encouraged them to look locally for programs as well as overseas. On Sunday, September 19, Jenny Atherton presented information concerning applications to the UK. In the past I have

found her to be extremely helpful and knowledgeable throughout the application process.

As well, I will gladly assist each student – and parents - with the completion of the application on line. Please phone and arrange a time when it is convenient, as I will stay after school or meet with you in the evening.

An important aspect of the application to the UK and to the USA, is the Personal Statement. It is helpful if students begin this statement now and take time to revise and edit before submission. The application for the USA is completed on line in the Common Application format or if a student only wishes to go to one particular university (s)he may simply apply directly.

For Ontario, the applications are submitted before the Christmas holiday. In November the 'pin numbers' will be sent from the Ministry of Education in Ontario and again the application is completed on line. There is no Personal Statement for the Ontario application. Students interested in McGill, British Columbia, Dalhousie apply directly to these universities and if they are also applying to Ontario – then the transcripts are shared electronically.

I hope this overview of the application process is helpful. Please call and arrange to visit if you require further clarification.

Guidance Mail:

mapleleafguidance@tstt.net.tt

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY ANYONE?

Mary Rawlings, Guidance Counselor of MLIS reports that Christine Aqui graduated in June and had her heart set on attending university in Ontario to study Mechatronics. In July, through contact with Ms. Rawlings while she was home in Ontario, the Ontario University Application Centre gave Ms. Rawlings a list of those programs that were accepting applications. Christine then applied to Laurentian University in Sudbury, and was accepted into the Mechanical Engineering programme with an option to studying Mechatronics later

The actual acceptance was not finalized until mid-August and although it was a rush to obtain visa and flights, she and her parents did manage to get to Sudbury for the orientation. Her late acceptance meant residence was full, but the university assisted her in finding off-campus rooms.

Her father spoke very positively of Sudbury, the university, the admissions office, and the international representative.

Christine's situation is a good story to remember as the current 'Class of 2011' begins the application process. If you do not get the acceptance into the university/college or program you wish - there is another path of success for you. Make sure that you have an alternate and

equally positive "back-up plan" for your future.

Christine and her parents both express appreciation to the teachers at Maple Leaf who worked hard to make Christine's year very positive.

We wish her every success.

Laurentian University will be at our Maple Leaf University and College Fair on October 28th so please take time to "check it out"!

STEFAN SHARPE

MLIS Grade 12 student, Stefan Sharpe has made regional history as being the first ever Caribbean swimmer to do and win all three 5K Open Water Races, with his most recent accomplishment being at the Maracas Bay Cross Harbour event at the end of September. Stefan who has represented T&T on the National Swim team since age 14, also won the 5k inaugural swims, in Barbados and Cuba earlier this year. 2010 has been heaped with other successes for this dedicated swimmer, as he also broke national records in his pet pool event in the 1500m distance, when he splashed for the GOLD medal at the CISC Championships, in Cuba . He is currently ranked very high in the world in this event. Stefan's future plans are presently focused on breaking other

national records later this year, attending an Olympic training clinic in December and flying the T&T flag at the Carifta Games and Pan Pacific Championships next year. After that, he is hoping to continue his swimming career at a university in the USA.

Stefan's rigorous schedule involves training at five on a morning, then coming to school and heading back to the pool on evenings, to then come home and do homework and study. His excellent time management skills have allowed him to balance both successfully. We wish him all the luck in the future, and are proud to have him as one of our MLIS students.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

JESSICA STEPHENSON is off to the Commonwealth Games in Delhi to represent Guyana in swimming. Students and staff of Maple Leaf International School are cheering for her, wishing her all the best in her competition.



TRAFFIC

As you are aware, traffic is always a challenge. The following are problems we have identified and areas we would like to have improved, with your assistance.

PRIMARY

- ☺ Drop your child at the gate.
- ☺ Park on Schneider Gardens Road and walk your child to the school gate.

Please do not park in front of the school as this does not allow the flow of cars to drop off quickly and causes congestion. The parking lot across from the school is not ours and we do not have permission to use it. **At pick up time**, drive down the first entrance to Schneider Gardens Road and line up moving forward to pick up your child/children. Please ensure that you do not block a neighbour's driveway.

MAIN CAMPUS

- ☺ Please ensure that you drive right down to the first available drop off spot at main campus to prevent blocking the flow of other incoming vehicles.
- ☺ Please do not block the entrance or the exit.
- ☺ Students must exit from the left side of the vehicle only.

Please do enter only through the entrance gate, not the exit gate.

Please do keep our neighbor's' driveways clear, do not park in their driveway.

Please do enter the school's entrance, without driving through the Alyce Glen Plaza to cut the line.

If your child is not present for pick up, please **move along and circle around again**.

Please stay in line and wait your turn. The guards are there to help; please follow their direction. If everyone follows the rules, the traffic will move swiftly.

Dismissal Times

JK—3	1:30 p.m.
Gr. 4—5	1:45 p.m.
Gr. 6—12	2:00 p.m.



INTERNET SAFETY TIPS

It is important for parents to be aware and teach their kids Internet safety tips so that they are able to make use of this wonderful technology safely.

<http://www.mapleleaf-school.com/news/default.php?id=127>

SECURITY TIPS

1. Instruct your children to never give information about themselves, their home address or their parent's names to strangers. Do not take directions from strangers.
2. Follow a defined route when walking home from school. Do not take shortcuts.
3. Your children should never accept gifts or rides not planned specifically by parents.
4. They should never let a telephone caller know that they are home alone. Teach them to say, "Mom is not available to answer the phone right now."
5. Teach them rules of conduct when they are on the internet.



The Year Ahead.....

The library staff plans to continue with the traditions of book fairs, author visits and seasonal displays. There will be new additions to these activities, which would be announced later in the year. Glenis and Gena seek to build and foster in the students a culture of reading and consistent research to enable the habit of independent study and life-long learning.

ENCOURAGING READING

Parents and educators alike often despair over the lack of interest children show in reading, but there are many ways of encouraging children to become life-long readers. The following tips are from the First Steps Literacy Resource. General tips that span all age groups are included.

- ☺ Read to your child every day or read to and with your child every day into adulthood.
- ☺ Read with expression when reading to your child to add to the enjoyment of the book. Change your tone of voice for different characters, or to show emotion and excitement.
- ☺ Your child needs to see the adults around them reading at various times every day.
- ☺ Choose materials that capture your child's interest and allow older children to choose what they want to read even though it may make you cringe.
- ☺ Discuss the story with your child, making connections to your own experiences or characters and experiences in other books or to movies.
- ☺ Give your child time to respond to the story.
- ☺ Encourage your child to read a variety of forms like magazines, newspapers and stories.
- ☺ Encourage your child to visit not only the school library but also the public library. The Port of Spain National Library is excellent.

Ensure that visiting a bookstore and buying a book is a regular part of your visit to the malls.



MLIS ART STUDENTS

Art students from Maple Leaf International School have started off the academic year with great creativity. The grades 9, 10 and 12 art classes are all investigating different aspects of the curriculum

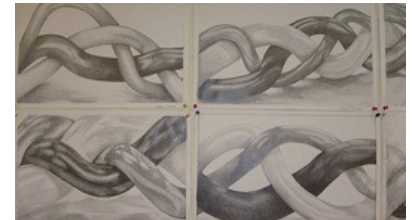
The grade 9 art students started of the semester working with 3 dimensional forms in that they created small clay forms to store their personal items eg cell phones, jewelry etc. They also created grotesque looking goblets to understand that art can be scary but still be art. Graffiti was examined and used as an art-form for these young artists.



The grade 10 art pieces show the depiction of a still life coming to life with textures in the form of a collage. Students experimented with both visual and tactile textures.



The grade 12 art pieces represent an investigation of the commonly used triadic braid. Their investigations lead them into the mediums of charcoal, pencil and chalk pastels. This triadic braid is the oldest motif and is still being used today as ornamentation on architecture, fabrics, jewelry, furniture, paper and hair designs.



YOGA AT MLIS

Through the kind sponsorship of the Maple Leaf International School PTA, the students have been given an opportunity to experience yoga activities once a week.

Yoga encourages self-esteem and body awareness by incorporating a physical activity that's noncompetitive.



STUDENT COUNCIL

The new student council committee members were elected recently by the MLIS students. The elected winners are:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Co-Presidents - | <i>Charlotte Boyack & Jesse Mansoor</i> |
| Vice-President (Snr) - | <i>Cashell Watson</i> |
| Vice-President (Jnr) - | <i>Johanna Nahous</i> |
| Secretary - | <i>Jessica Haider</i> |
| Treasurer - | <i>Ramon Nahous</i> |
| Social Rep.- | <i>Kyna hompson</i> |
| Athletics Rep.- | <i>Adam Lazzari</i> |
| Promotional Reps. - | <i>Alyssa Naime & Ashley Hobson Garcia</i> |
| Communications Reps. - | <i>Charles Reid & Jeanine Mulrain</i> |
| Teacher Advisors - | <i>Alix Hobday & Alvin Jugoon</i> |